A Worship Outline for Chaplaincy Fortnight

**Suggested Bible reading:**

1 Cor 4:8-12 (We are fools for Christ…We work hard with our own hands..)

Luke 19: 1-10 (Zacchaeus)

**Suggested Hymns:**

**Awake my soul** (Thomas Ken)

**Forth in thy Name, I go (**Charles Wesley)

**New every morning is the love (**John Keble)

**Teach me My God and King** (George Herbert)

**Let’s go across**

Christ calls us as disciples

to tread unknown terrain,

embark on new adventures

and change ourselves again.

‘Let’s go across the water,

on to the other side,’

and if a storm should greet us,

may peace and faith abide.

By faith we’re called to follow

though like a mustard seed

we know our hope is fragile

and yearns to be set free:

but we are called in weakness

as waves crash all around,

God knowing our potential:

may peace and faith abound!

By faith we must remember

we’ve not passed here before;

this way eludes our mapping;

we’re safer on the shore:

but we are called to follow

God’s promises ahead

which break the flowing torrents:

in hope we too shall tread!

Christ, call us as disciples

to what we do not know,

to where the Spirit prompts us:

that mustard seeds might grow!

Let’s go across the waters,

beyond what we can see,

that as your promise shapes us,

new worlds shall dare to be!

*Metre 76 76 D (eg Wolvercote: O Jesus I have promised)*

*Words by Graham Adams*

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**Join in celebration**

Christians! Join in celebration,

see the hope in every face,

catch a glimpse of new creation

even here in time and space:

children thrive in peace, undaunted,

work receives its fair reward,

homes are built and crops are planted –

can we see this world restored?

People join in celebration

where the truth of God is heard

spoken out in confrontation

with the powers that hold the world,

tearing through the web of lying,

naming debt, disease and war,

through the bravest, prophesying:

‘Death and pain could be no more!’

Christians! Join in celebration,

sweeping far beyond our schemes.

Dare to hear God’s invitation

in a hundred human dreams.

‘Break your chainlinks with corruption,

struggle free from guilt and fear,

join the surge of hope’s eruption,

God’s great carnival is here!’

People! Join in celebration,

fan the flame from place to place,

form a vivid constellation

starring all the human race.

Let God’s image blaze unhindered,

glorious in diversity.

If our crazed abuse were ended,

then creation might be free.

Tune: *Blaenwern* W.P. Rowlands 8787D

Words: Janet H. Wootton b. 1952

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**Longing for light**

Longing for light, we wait in darkness.

Longing for truth we turn to you.

Make us your own, your holy people,

Light for the world to see

*Christ be our light! Shine in our hearts.*

*Shine through the darkness.*

*Christ be our light! Shine in your church gathered today.*

Longing for peace, our world is troubled.

Longing for hope, many despair.

Your word alone has power to save us.

Make us your living voice.

*Christ be our light! etc*

Longing for food, many are hungry.

Longing for water, many still thirst.

Make us your bread, broken for others,

Shared until all are fed.

*Christ be our light! etc*

Longing for shelter, many are homeless.

Longing for warmth, many are cold.

Make us your building, sheltering others,

Walls made of living stone.

*Christ be our light! etc*

Many the gifts, many the people,

Many the hearts that yearn to belong.

Let us be servants to one another,

Making your kingdom come.

*Christ be our light! etc*

(Words and Music: Bernadette Farrell)

**The Power of Your Love**

Lord I come to You

Let my heart be changed, renewed

Flowing from the grace

That I’ve found in You

Lord I’ve come to know

The weaknesses I see in me

Will be stripped away

By the power of Your love

Hold me close

Let Your love surround me

Bring me near

Draw me to Your side

And as I wait

I’ll rise up like the eagle

And I will soar with You

Your Spirit leads me on

In the power of Your love

Lord unveil my eyes

Let me see You face to face

The knowledge of Your love

As You live in me

Lord renew my mind

As Your will unfolds in my life

In living every day

By the power of Your love

(Music, Words by Hillsong)

**Prayers**

**Introduction/Call to Worship**

(Prayer of St Christopher)

God, thank you for giving me another day.

Let me face my troubles today - the big and the small - with a happy heart filled with your unending love.

Let me appreciate the moments of joy

You send me this day.

Let me see the cares of others

as an opportunity to bring

Your great compassion to those who most need it.

And God, I know that you see and know all things

- all of the world’s loveliness, and all of its harshness, too.

So on this day that you have given me,

I ask that I may bring your joy with me as I share myself with others.

And I pray that you will be warmed by the happiness of your children.

Finally, God, let me never forget that in all things, in gladness or sorrow,

You who are all love and joy and hope are always by my side. Amen

**Confession/Prayer of Approach**

(‘A Prayer for our enemies’ – from Armed Forces Operational Service and Prayer Book)

Lord Jesus Christ, before whose judgement seat we shall all stand, we pray, as you have taught us, for our enemies; so turn their hearts and ours that we all may truly repent; and grant that they and we, being cleansed from sin, may know and do your will. For you were lifted up upon the cross to draw all people to yourself, our Saviour, our Lord and our God. Amen.

**Collect Prayer for Chaplains**

Loving God, you have called us to joyous mission to the church and world.

We thank you that you have called people to a ministry beyond the walls of the church: in prison, hospital or workplace; on the streets, in the battlefield and with other faiths.

We ask you to fill them afresh with your Holy Spirit, who brings fruitfulness out of everyday things.

Give them courage where difficulties must be faced; Encourage them where results are not easily seen; and lead them through the cost, pain, and privilege of this ministry.

As Christ ministered to those around him, with the vision of your kingdom that cannot be shaken; where there is wholeness, healing, and new creation: so help them to minister according to Christ’s greater pattern.

We ask this, in His name, Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen

**A Prayer of Commitment**

(Prayer of St Ignatius)

Teach us, good Lord, to serve thee as thou deservest; to give and not to count the cost; to fight and not to heed the wounds; to toil and not to seek for rest; to labour and not to ask for any reward, save that of knowing that we do thy will. Amen.

**Prayers of Intercessions**

Gracious God,

We bring before you, those who make our day run smoothly- but we hardly ever remember or even sometimes notice. For early morning cleaners, who makes sure our places of work, schools or hospitals, are clean; who empty our bin, and restock the hand towels in the washrooms. For the road cleaners and the bin men, who make sure our roads are free from rubbish.

Hear our prayer,

**And in your love answer!**

We bring before you those who make our journey to work as smooth as it can be. We bring before you, those who drive the buses, and trains, for those whose mammoth job it is to work out time schedules, and keep our transport working, so we can get to our places of work, college and leisure on time. We pray for those who work in petrol stations especially the stations that are open for 24hours, with sometimes one person attending, we pray for their safety as they deal with the threat of theft and abuse.

Hear our prayer,

**And in your love answer!**

We think of all those who are in customer services and who try to help us with our day to day lives.

We bring before you those who are in service provision, whose role it is to answer the phone, and to help us with our enquiries. Those we speak to when our internet is down, or our energy bill isn’t correct; those who we speak to, to make a hospital or doctor’s appointment. Those with whom we get impatient, especially when we’ve been put on hold. We pray for those who make our lives safe, maintain our defence and work for a healthy justice system.

Hear our prayer,

**And in your love answer!**

We pray for those who check our gas and electric meters, who maintain our gardens, who clean our window and if we’re lucky enough to have them, those who clean our houses.

To us Lord, many of these people are often invisible. We may encounter them daily, or depend on them in secret, but we rarely consider. But to you, they are precious individuals made in your image. May we be reminded of that in our relationships with them.

Hear our prayer

**And in your love answer! Amen.**

**Prayer of Blessing**

We have been called the salt of the earth

**Let us remain distinctive and salty**

We have been called the light of the earth

**Let us shine brightly in the midst of pain and confusion**

We have been called a city set on a hill

**Let us, like Jerusalem, lift up our gates,**

**Lift up our hearts, Lift up our voices in the worship of God.**

And may the Blessing of God Almighty,

Father, Son and Holy Spirit

Remain with us, now and always

**Amen.**